A DREADFUL WARNIN FOR Drunkards, OR THE EXECUTION AND CONFESSION OF

Fabian Price, a SOULDIER, who wa Executed at *Tybarn*, on Wedneſday the Tenth of th inſtant *July*; for Murdering another Souldier in th Pariſh of *Chiſwick*, in his Drink.

As alſo of

James Smith, who was Executed on Thurſda the Eleventh, at *Hounſlow-Heath*, for Running away from his Colours.

With the manner of their Behaviour in Priſon, and t the places of Execution.

With Allowance.

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A Dreadful Warning
FOR
DRUNKARDS.

AT the late Sessions holden for the City of *London* and County of *Middlesex*, there were Five Persons received Sentence of Death, three Men and two Women. Of the Men one was for Murther; another for a Rape, or beastly abuse offer'd to a Child under ten years of Age; and the third being a Soldier, for running away from his Colours. The two Women were condemned for several Robberies, which they had long practis'd; but by the Mercy of our ever Gracious Soveraign, three of the five obtained the favour of a Reprieve.

The most remarkable or notorious of those that suffer'd, was *Fabian Price*, a Souldier, and one who for a considerable time had been of that imployment, having been in the late Expedition against the Rebels in *Virginia*; where, as some say, he in Drunken Quarrelsome

ſome Humours committed ſome Crimes that were like to have render'd him obnoxious to Capital Puniſhment from the hands of Juſtice. But whether that be true or not, 'tis certain he himſelf could not deny but he now ſuffered juſtly, for taking away the Life of another, who endeavoured to aſſiſt and help him, as far as he was capable. That lying in a field, in the way to *Branford*, he was civilly, awakened by theſe three Soldiers, who being wholly ſtrangers, had no other inducement, but as he was their Fellow-Souldier, to take him along with them. That he ſwore bitterly at them, and when they firſt came up with him, his Muſquet being cockt, they asked him whether it were Charg'd; he replyed with an Oath, *Yes, and that with Bullet as well as Powder:* and that after all this he cockt again privately, and on a ſudden diſcharged it upon them, ſhooting one of them into the Belly; whereof, without ever ſpeaking a word, he inſtantly died. All theſe Circumſtances, I ſay, were evidently proved by three Witneſſes at his Trial; and all that he had to plead for himſelf was, that he was in Drink when he he did it.

'Tis true, the operation of Drink does frequently cauſe people to do what they never thought on when ſober; but if in that Condition they commit any Crime, their Drunkennneſs is ſo far from excuſing them, that 'tis in all caſes an high aggravation; for a Drun-

kard is *voluntarius Dæmon*, a voluntary Devil; a Beast and a Madman of his own making; and can it be an Apology for a Mans villany, that he first put out the light of his understanding, that he might commit it resolutely; shall one Sin parallize another, or shall the defacing God Image in our selves by Drunkenness, justifying us for destroying it in others by Murder; Alass! No, this poor wretch found it otherwise, and justly suffered when he was sober, for the Blood he had shed when he was drunk.

The other Souldier who was Executed the day following at *Hounslow*, for runing away from his Colours being Condemned upon the Statute, had very little to say for himself, but we hope it will be a warning to all others for committing the like offences.

Their Behaviour in *Newgate* was very penitent, especially the Souldier for the Murther, who expresst his sorrow for his Sins, with abundance of Tears, and all other signs of a hearty and sincere Contrition. The Sunday before they suffered, two Sermons were preacht to them, upon 2 *Cor. Ca.* 4. *v.* 2 *If our Gospel be hid, it's hid to them that are lost*; "From "whence the Minister took pains to shew "them; the danger those persons were in to "whom the saving Mysteries of the Gospel "were hid or unknown; who were Strangers "to the Covenant of Grace, and had no Inte-

"rest

" rest in the Lord Jesus, That such Souls were
" in a lost undone and desperate state, the
" horror whereof he aggravated in several
" circumstances; and then came to give them
" directions, how to receive and secure their
" Souls from such peril and destruction, a de-
" struction, (as he well observed) not of its na-
" tural Existence, but of its Moral Excellence,
" when 'tis depraved, degenerated, banisht
" from God, defiled with Sin: and given up
" to be by Devils eternally tormented; in
" handling this part, he first cautioned them
" from Seducers, that would be apt to offer
" them Heaven and Happiness upon other
" terms than ever God intended, and ready
" to abuse them with pre ended Absolutions
" and Pardons, which in the day of the Lord
" would be of no value; in the next place he
" prest them earnestly to consider the great-
" ness of the loss, when their Souls were lost,
" to consider what it was for ever to be shut
" out of the Joys of Heaven, and endure an
" Eternity of Torments; that they now had
" but a few moments, left them, for not
" only their years and days, but hours were
" numbred, and upon these Moments their E-
" verlasting Bliss or Woe depended, he therefore
" did beseech them seriously to reflect upon
" their Condition, to be throughly sensible of,
" bewail and abhor their natural state of en-

" mity

" mity against God and Goodneſs, to Repent
" ſpeedily and heartily for all their multiplied
" and repeated Tranſgreſſions, to ſee the
" loathſome deformity of Sin in it ſelf, and the
" neceſſity of a Saviour, without whom they
" muſt infallably periſh to all Eternity;
" to fly to the Lord Chriſt for help and
" for Salvation, and to accept him upon his
" own terms, admitting him for their King to
" rule them, as well as their Jeſus to ſave them,
" for they muſt be ſanctified, or elſe they
" would never be juſtified; to this purpoſe he
" deſired them to remove all lets and hindran-
" ces, and ſeriouſly ſet to the work, to caſt off
" all thoughts of the World, which they were
" ſo ſoon to part with, and fix them on Eter-
" nity, whither they were haſtning, to im-
" prove every minute of that ſmall time they
" had left, in making their peace with God,
" and not deceive themſelves, by miſtaking ſor-
" row for the puniſhment, to be Repentance
" for ſin, or every check of Conſcience, for
" the pangs of the New Birth; Alaſs! there
" muſt be a total and thorough change of the
" whole man; an abhorrency of all ſin plant-
" ed in their wills, and a love to God above
" all objects whatſoever in their Souls; he told
" them there was not only an infinite value,
" but an infinite vertue too in the blood of
" Chriſt, and that they muſt feel the effects
" and influences thereof, upon their hearts in

" this

" this world, if ever they Expected the be-
" nefit of it, in the next, &c. concluding
" his discourse with diverse other necessary di-
" rections and pathetical Exhortations.

When the Person for Murder was carried forth to suffer, he declared himself freely willing to Dye, as having justly deserved it; and would often aggravate his own Wickedness and Gods Mercy, in that he suddenly had destroyed an Innocent person, that offer'd Kindness to him, without giving him any space for preparation, or so much time as to say, *Lord have mercy upon him*; whereas he himself now was indulged several days to prepare for his Death. At the place of Execution, with abundance of Tears, he besought all people to take warning, and avoid that odious and most dangerous Sin of Drunkenness, which renders those Men, or rather beasts that practise it, fit and ready for all kinde of mischief. How many Whoredomes, Adulteries, Rapes, and Murders have been hereby occasioned! For Drunkenness is not only a Sin of the first rate in it self, but a common Seminary, or Seed-plot of all other Sins.

There is a Relation of a well-educated and disposed Young-man, how he was once tempted to three Sins, Murder, Whoredome and Drunkenness,

Drunkenneſs, of which he might take his choice; who choſe the laſt, as being in his apprehenſion the leaſt heinous. But behold! When the Wine had inflam'd him, having no longer any ſenſe of Piety, or the obligations of Nature, he ſlew his own Father, and committed Inceſt with his Siſter.

Let the ſad Example of this poor wretches deplorable and ruinous end, that now juſtly ſuffered for a horrid Murder, committed when he had made himſelf inſenſible of what he did by Drunkenneſs, prevail with all to watch over themſelves, and avoid ſuch Exceſs. For how knoweſt thou, O Reader! but if thou proceedeſt in that Swiniſh Sin, though maſked under the flattering Title of Complaiſance to Company and Good-fellowſhip, God may give thee up, when thou thy ſelf haſt willfully drown'd that reaſon which he gave thee for a guide, how knoweſt thou! ſay, but he may give thee up to commit as great a ſin as this poor Man now ſuffer'd for, and ſo come to be made an Example thy ſelf, that would'ſt take no warning by the example of others.

FINIS.